GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4607
ANSWERED ON:18.04.2001
MONITORING OF THE PRIVATE HEALTH SECTOR
RAM SHAKAL

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any mechanism in place with the Government to ensure effective monitoring of the private health sector particularly its large scale expansion during the last decade;

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to ensure the quality of medial facilities particularly the medical equipments and the total number of beds in the private medical institutions;

(c) whether the Government propose to make a law for monitoring of the functioning the private medical institutions and to prescribe minimum requirements to implement the same;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) to (e) `Health` is a State subject under the Constitution of India and it is the responsibility of every State/Union Territory to frame rules/guidelines to monitor the functions of private health sector in the State/Union Territory under the rules/laws available in the respective State/Union Territory.

Under the provisions of Indian Medical Council Act, Medical Council of India has prescribed Minimum Standard Requirements for the Medical Colleges for 50,100 and 150 admissions annually and also Regulations on Graduate Medical Education, 1997.Certain parameters have been laid down in these regulations with regard to procurement of the medical equipments, staff and total number of beds which are the same for Government as well as the Private Medical Colleges.

There is a proposal in Ministry of Health & Family Welfare to have a legislation prescribing the minimum standards for hospitals, nursing homes and other clinical establishments in the country in view of the large scale proliferation of private clinic/nursing homes all over the country and complaints received from time to time about the quality of service provided by them. `Health` being a State subject, proposed legislation requires the consent of two or more States. All the State Governments have been requested to consider the proposal and take necessary steps to make available the recommendations of the State Legislature.